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the peoples of Europe and not to their governments that Greece owed her liberty. . . . In the settlement of the Greek question, it was England that acted as a drag on the counsels of Europe. . . . England in fact, through her anxiety to maintain Turkey as a barrier against Muscovite aggression, played straight into the hands of Russia. . . . The net result, then, of sixty years of British diplomacy in the East is that, at the present moment, every vestige of influence which England ever possessed at Constantinople has vanished, and Greece, which might have been a bulwark of British power in the Mediterranean, lies crushed and bleeding beneath the heel of the Turk."

After all abatements and in the face of present bankruptcy and ruin, Mr. Phillips concludes that "the Greeks are capable of making great sacrifices for the sake of a national ideal; and it is possible that, with a wider field on which to work, their conceptions of duty and patriotism would likewise expand. To maintain that the Greeks are, as a race, incapable of establishing and maintaining a powerful state, is to ignore the teaching of a long, if comparatively neglected, period of history. The Byzantine Empire was a Greek state, and, hopelessly corrupt as it doubtless too often proved itself at the centre, it nevertheless preserved civilization and the remains of ancient culture for a thousand years against the flood of barbarism which from the north and east threatened to overwhelm them. . . . And the Greeks of to-day are very much what their fathers were before them."

On the whole, the book is one to be welcomed as the first successful attempt to tell the story of the founding of the new Greek state—for it goes beyond the War for Independence, which ended in 1829 (see p. 236)—within the limits of a volume and in a style to fix and hold attention. From cover to cover there is hardly a dull page, while the narrative flows strongly on and rises on occasion to the high-water mark of historical style. Open to criticism as the book fairly is, the reader who follows to the end, as most will certainly do, will find in the author his own best antidote.

J. IRVING MANATT.

The Sacrifice of a Throne, being an account of the Life of Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, sometime King of Spain. By H. REMSEN WHITEHOUSE. (New York: Bonnell, Silver and Co. 1897. Pp. 328.)

WE are indebted to Mr. Whitehouse for a clever and interesting book, the best picture we have of the election and abdication of Amadeus, with illuminating sidelights from Italian history thrown upon the early and the later life of the monarch. Having had exceptional facilities for forming a correct judgment, growing out of his diplomatic career, the author has used his advantages well and given us a view of a pathetic life and of one of the most interesting episodes in modern history. The early life of Amadeus, his education, marriage, love of manly sports, military career, and what occurred after his return "home," his active

participation in public affairs, devotion to his brother, contempt of danger, popularity, are described with pleasing effect, making a charming biography of an admirable man, whom the tongue of slander never assailed in his varied and difficult experiences.

Poor Spain, a land of romance and conquests, the prey of ambitious rulers, ravaged by foreign armies, her people forced scores of times into wars without knowing for what they were fighting, and her internal affairs interfered with repeatedly by those who officiously assumed to dictate and control ! Not guiltless herself of great mistakes and crimes, such as the expulsion of the Moors and the Jews, and the Inquisition, the intrigues and wrongs of foreigners have not been her sole grievances. She has been cursed with kings and queens ignorant, bigoted, unchaste, corrupt, and the strong monarchical sentiment has had the severest tests in the misrule and wickedness of those who impiously claimed sovereignty "by divine right." One of the latest and best known of these offenders was Isabella, who, brought to the throne when wholly unprepared for its high duties, and surrounded by intriguing and unscrupulous men, was led into such acts as aroused the indignation of her subjects. Montpensier, Narvaez, Serrano, and others, seduced her, step by step, into political and personal errors, until, under compulsion of revolution and party strife, she fled for refuge to France. A strong party, backed by wealth, prestige and political experience, was soon engaged in search for some ruler who could be accepted as a legitimate monarch. These monarchists were soon found to be in harsh disagreement as to the person to be chosen, when the Council of Ministers agreed upon Leopold, the Prince of Hohenzollern, and thus for awhile ended the contentions. While all are familiar with the fatal, but unnecessary, results of this choice—in the Franco-Prussian war, the disaster at Sedan, the collapse of the Napoleonic dynasty, the revolution in Paris—the full history of the negotiations of the Spanish cabinet, the action and the well-matured purpose of Prim, the *contretemps* at Ems, have yet to be written in the light of facts, grossly obscured and perverted in state papers, memoirs and other writings.

Leopold first accepting then declining, the negotiations, which had been broken off, were opened afresh with the House of Savoy, and Amadeus, the son of Victor Emmanuel, was called to the throne, and, with many misgivings, accepted it. Mr. Whitehouse has sketched minutely the familiar incidents connected with the attempt to transport a foreign prince from his own country to the throne of an unwilling people. Despite his personal virtues and his avowed purpose to uphold the majesty of his office and govern according to constitutional guarantees, the inexperienced king found it impossible to accomplish his wishes. Political and religious intrigues, factions, a bankrupt treasury, social ostracism, the ill health of his sensitive wife and other causes convinced him of the "barrenness of his efforts, the impossibility of realizing his aims," and firmly and solemnly, for himself, his children and his successors, he renounced the crown which had been offered him by the national suffrage.

This abdication devolved the sovereignty of the nation on the National Assembly. The Republicans, at the head of whom were men of large ability and spotless integrity, after a provisional organization and the choice of an executive *pro hac vice*, succeeded in organizing the Republic. Although the transition was easy and the revolution was accomplished without violence, or bloodshed, or violation of the rights of property, or the favoring of any wild socialistic or communistic theories, yet the difficulties of government were insuperable and soon the Republic gave way to the Alfonsists. It would be a labor of love to vindicate the Republic, in its broad and enlightened statesmanship, from the persistent aspersions of prejudiced writers, but that would exceed the scope of the work under review. Not less agreeable would it be to pay the tribute of admiration to the present Queen of Spain, who redeems royalty from many of its merited reproofs, by her administrative capacity, her large intelligence, her generous charities, the purity of her life and by those womanly qualities which make her an honor to her sex.

The Evolution of France under the Third Republic. By BARON PIERRE DE COUBERTIN. Translated from the French by ISABEL F. HAPGOOD, with an introduction by ALBERT SHAW. (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell and Co. 1897. Pp. xli, 430.)

THIS work does not purport to be strictly a history of the present French Republic. The narrative is not continuous enough, and the method of treatment is too disconnected for that. In fact, the author assumes a general familiarity with recent French politics, and the reader who has not that at command will not find the book perfectly easy to follow. The Baron de Coubertin has set to himself a newer and more interesting task, that of explaining the reasons for the course events have taken. He tries to show us why changes of ministry, which seem to the casual observer very much a matter of chance, are really the logical result of a continuous process of evolution. In this, there is much that is suggestive, though one hardly feels that the author has been in all cases perfectly successful. Surely, the fact that at times cabinet after cabinet has fallen without any sufficient reason, has been in itself the natural product of the political condition. Still the attempt to find a continuous sequence in all the political events under the Third Republic is exceedingly valuable, even if the thread at times seem attenuated.

While it is evident that the author belongs to the party of moderate Republicans which is now gaining strength rapidly among the educated classes in France, he is, in the main, just in his statements of policy, and fair in his judgment of men. He draws with an impartial hand a picture of the rule and fall of Thiers, and of the passionate struggle between MacMahon and the majority of the Chamber of Deputies. One of his few heroes is Jules Ferry, who, although never popular in the country at large, succeeded in imposing his will upon the Chamber of Deputies for a longer time than any other minister the Third Republic has had. It is,